

HO-791, Taylor House
Hanover, Howard County
Circa 1876
Private access

CAPSULE SUMMARY

The interesting house at 6150 Hanover Road is known locally as the Taylor House. The modest Italianate style dwelling rests on a stone foundation facing east on the west side of Hanover Road on an expansive lot surrounded by large trees. Modern housing developments have come to this area of Howard County with a vengeance in recent years wiping out the physical remnants of the area's past, but the Taylor House remains, in largely original condition, as a roadside reminder. The two-story, three-bay frame dwelling's most striking characteristic is its townhouse form, unusual in what was a very rural area. The cornice of the shed roof is decorated with simple scroll brackets, a classic Italianate elaboration.

The Taylor House is significant under criteria C in the area of architecture. It is one of the last physical reminders of the rural development that came to Hanover in the late 19th century. In addition, its Italianate townhouse style is unique in the Hanover area. Fifty years ago, the Hanover area still retained much of its sleepy rural character and original architecture, but the last twenty years have brought major changes to the area and clustered residential suburban developments have replaced the modest original houses and stores. The Taylor House is the last remaining 1870's house fronting on Hanover Road.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO-791

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Taylor House

other

2. Location

street and number 6150 Hanover Road not for publication

city, town Hanover vicinity

county Howard

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Grace Taylor Schutt

street and number 6132 Hanover Road telephone

city, town Hanover state MD zip code 21076

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Howard County Courthouse tax map and parcel: Map 38, P 234

city, town Ellicott City liber 3436 folio 401

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report
☐ Other

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
			0

7. Description

Inventory No. HO-791

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The interesting house at 6150 Hanover Road is known locally as the Taylor House. The modest Italianate style dwelling rests on a stone foundation facing east on the west side of Hanover Road. The house sits close to the edge of the road in a clearing surrounded by several large old trees. The area behind the house is heavily wooded and was not surveyed. Modern housing developments have come to this area of Howard County with a vengeance in recent years wiping out the physical remnants of the area's past, but the Taylor House remains, in largely original condition, as a roadside reminder. In addition to the house, there is only one small shed left on the property.

The two-story, three-bay frame dwelling's most striking characteristic is its townhouse form, unusual in what was a very rural area. The cornice of the shed roof is decorated with simple scroll brackets, a classic Italianate elaboration. The front door, a four-panel style with the upper two panels arched, is located in the right bay with two 2/2 windows spaced across the first story. On the second story, three more 2/2 windows are vertically aligned above the first story openings. A single story, full width front porch is supported by square chamfered posts and lacks a balustrade. The floor of the porch is currently concrete. The principle façade, like all the others, is clad in green asbestos siding. The roof of both the porch and the entire house is asphalt shingle.

The south side façade of the building reveals an interesting assortment of rooflines. The building appears to be three rooms deep with each section having a different roofline. The shed roof, which gives the building its unusual townhouse appearance, extends only one room deep. Behind the shed roofed section, the roof takes a half-gambrel shape before transitioning into a front (rear) gable form at the rear of the house. On the south façade, two vertically aligned 2/2 windows are located towards the rear of the shed roofed section. The half-gambrel section, which is recessed three feet back from the side of the front section, has two vertically aligned 6/6 windows, and the rear gabled section also has two vertically aligned 6/6 windows. The rear-most 2/3 of the building (the half-gambrel and gabled portions) has a wide, but unadorned, eave overhang. A small shed roofed entry portico is located over a door on the west façade of the front portion of the building in the elbow created by the recessing of the rear portion of the building. The porch supports are plain square wood posts. The windows on this façade have wooden sills and beaded exterior trim. All of the windows on the house show evidence of having been shuttered originally but none of the shutters remain. The rear (west) façade of the house reveals the only addition made to the house – a narrow two story shed roofed section added to the north side of the rear gabled portion of the house. The west façade of the original gabled section has a blank second story and one 6/6 window on the first story. There is a rectangular vent in the gable. The west façade of the shed roofed addition, which is flush with the back of the original house, has one 6/6 window on the second story and a door on the first story. A screened-in shed roofed porch extends across the shed roofed addition and part of the gabled section.

The north side façade of the house shows the same progression of rooflines visible on the south façade in addition to the shed roofed addition towards the rear of the building. The front shed roofed section of the house is almost blank on this façade, with the exception of a small five-sided window located between floors, probably in the stairwell. The half-gambrel section has one 6/6 window on the second floor and a glazed 8-light door on the first story. The north façade of the gabled section is completely covered by the two-story, shed roofed addition which has two vertically aligned 6/6 windows on its north façade. An exterior brick stovepipe chimney is located on this façade at the junction of the gambrel, gable, and shed roofed sections. The two-story, shed roofed addition has a cinderblock foundation, in contrast to the stone foundation on the rest of the building.

Only one small shed roofed frame outbuilding remains behind the house. The roofline of the shed roof mimics that on the main house but instead of brackets at the cornice, there are exposed rafter tails. Like the main house, the shed is clad in asbestos siding. In contrast to the main house, this building is not in good condition, and there is a large hole in the rear wall and the roof is caving in. Several other unusual grassy mounds behind the main house indicate the former presence of additional outbuildings. At the very least, there would have been a privy and a springhouse since the house did not get running water until the 1950's. The family also supposedly kept animals so there was probably a small barn of some sort.

Unfortunately, the owner would not allow interior access to the building. This building was ultimately surveyed for the inventory without the owners permission or cooperation so the wooded area behind the house was not investigated for evidence of other buildings.

8. Significance

Inventory No. HO-791

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime industry	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Specific dates ca. 1876

Architect/Builder unknown

Construction dates ca. 1876

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form - see manual.)

The Taylor House is significant under criteria C in the area of architecture. It is one of the last physical reminders of the rural development that came to Hanover in the late 19th century. In addition, its Italianate townhouse style is unique in the Hanover area. Fifty years ago, the Hanover area still retained much of its sleepy rural character and original architecture, but the last twenty years have brought major changes to the area and clustered residential suburban developments have replaced the modest original houses and stores. The Taylor House is the last remaining 1870's house fronting on Hanover Road.

Little is known about the settlement of the Hanover area, and unfortunately, the current owner of the Taylor House, a direct descendent of the builder and lifelong resident of Hanover, would not make herself available for an interview. The 1860 Martenet map shows Hanover Road but shows only three houses fronting the road. The area from the Baltimore Washington Turnpike to the county line was sparsely settled. There is no town labeled 'Hanover' but near where the railroad crosses what is now Hanover Road, it is labeled 'Hanover Switch'. On the 1878 map of Howard County, the area around the intersection of the tracks and the road is labeled 'Hanover' and 'Anderson P.O.' The village of Anderson was laid out in the early 1870's by Ephriam Anderson; by the end of the 19th century it was known as Hanoverville and later Hanover. The village is located near the railroad tracks along what is known as Anderson Avenue. In 1878, there were still very few houses located directly on Hanover Road, although there are several located back off the road. The Taylor House may appear on the map as a square labeled 'J. Soft.' The development that occurred along Hanover Road in the late 19th century was spurred by both the railroad and by agriculture.

According to the current owner, the house was built in 1876 by her relative, Francis W. Taylor, a professor who came from England to work for the railroad. Unfortunately, a deed trace on this property proved fruitless as the microfilm of key land records from the mid-20th century was nowhere to be found. Looking up Francis Taylor in the Grantee index, however, revealed that he did not actually purchase the property, which consisted of about 8 acres, until 1910. Unfortunately, it was not possible to tell who owned it before him because it was involved in a court dispute and Taylor bought it from a court appointed trustee. In the 1850's the land was part of the Hanover tract, owned by Stephen Bryan. Bryan died intestate and in 1871, his children sold off many 8 acre parcels of the land along Hanover Road. All of these deeds reference a plat drawn in 1871 by Amos Harmon to facilitate the land sale. Unfortunately, the plat does not seem to have been recorded in the land records and it is impossible to tell who bought the 8 acre parcel now containing the Taylor House. Stylistic evidence indicates that the house was probably built in the 1870's, as stated by the current owner, and would therefore have already been standing when Francis Taylor bought the land.

It is unfortunate that we can't tell who bought the land in 1871 since that person seems the most likely candidate to have built the house. That person's identity may help shed light on the unusual form of the house. While the use of Italianate elements itself is not unusual, the townhouse form complete with cornice brackets is unexpected in such a rural setting. There are no houses like it standing in the Hanover area. The 'J. Soft' noted on the 1878 Hopkins map may be the builder of the house but a search for that name in the land records of Howard County drew a blank.

The Taylor House is a powerful roadside landmark of the late 19th century in Hanover. It is in largely original condition, at least on the exterior, and is significant both for its age and staying power and its form.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. HO-791

See continuation sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property approx 0.5

Acreage of historical setting 8

Quadrangle name Relay

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

Verbal boundary description and justification

Tax map 38, Parcel 234. The original 8 acre parcel still seems to be intact. However, this property was recorded against the owners wishes so the woods behind the house were not explored for the remains of other buildings. Only the clearing around the house, approximately 0.5 acre, was surveyed.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kristin Hill, Historic Sites Surveyor

organization Howard County Department of Planning and Zoning

date 7/22/03

street and number 3430 Court House Drive

telephone 410-313-4335

city or town Ellicott City

state MD zip code 21043

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville MD 21032
410-514-7600

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO-791

Name Taylor House

Continuation Sheet

Number 9 Page 1

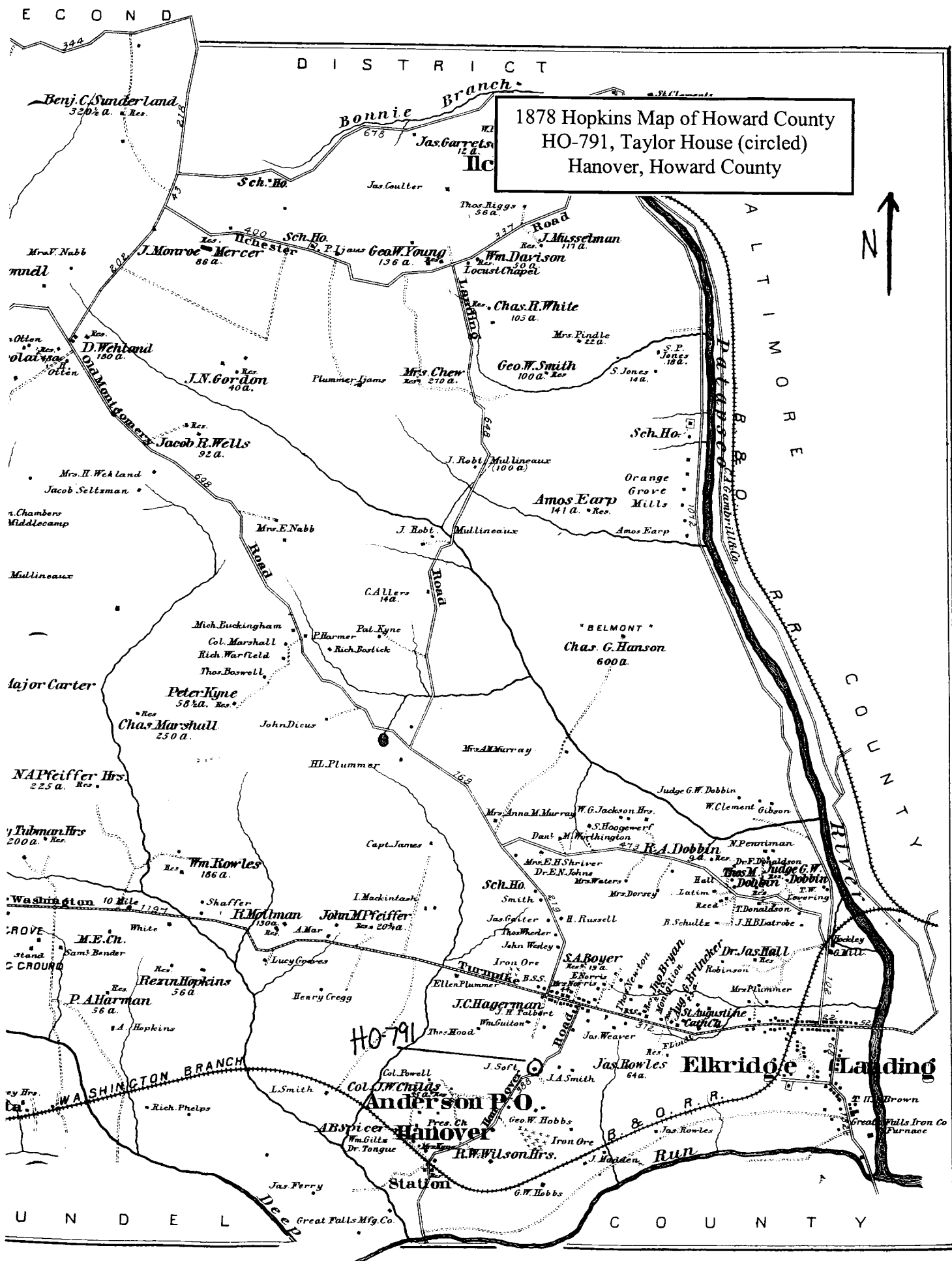
Brief interview with Grace Schutt, June 24, 2003.

Howard County Land Records, Liber 89, Folio 520 (Bell to Francis Taylor), and Liber 31, Folio 130 (first deed in a series of Catherine Peddicord selling off 8 acre tracts along Hanover Road).

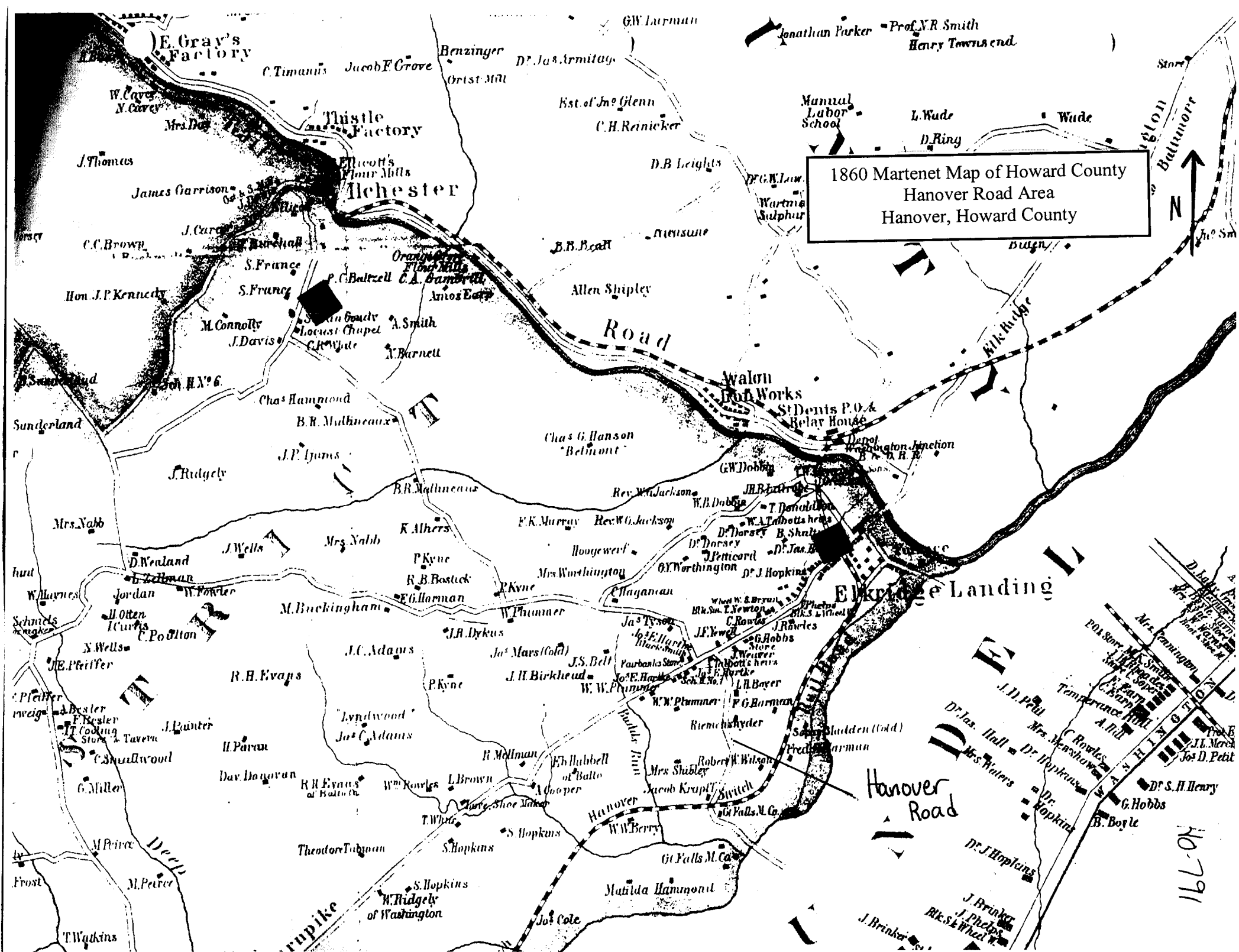
Hopkins, G.M. ATLAS OF HOWARD COUNTY, MARYLAND, 1878. (Ellicott City, Maryland: Howard County Bicentennial Commission, Inc., 1975).

Martenet, Simon J. MARTENET'S MAP OF HOWARD COUNTY, MARYLAND. (Baltimore, 1860).

Vest, Louise. "A Graceful Waltz: Hanover in Another Era." THE VIEW FROM ELKRIDGE/HANOVER. April 2003, p. 12-15.



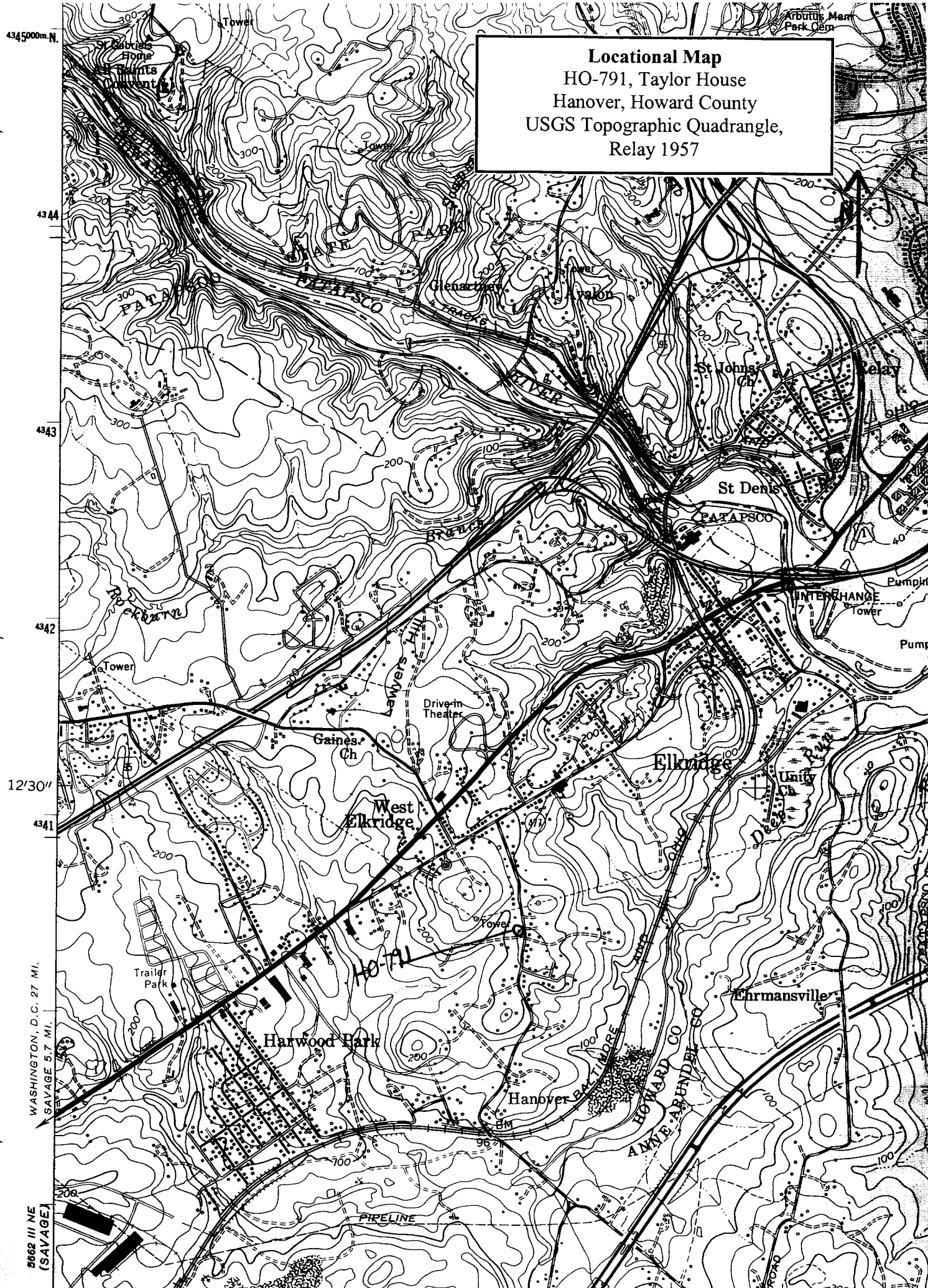
1878 Hopkins Map of Howard County
HO-791, Taylor House (circled)
Hanover, Howard County



1860 Martenet Map of Howard County
Hanover Road Area
Hanover, Howard County

10-791

Locational Map
HO-791, Taylor House
Hanover, Howard County
USGS Topographic Quadrangle,
Relay 1957



WASHINGTON, D.C. 27 MI.
SAVAGE 5.7 MI.

5662 III NE
(SAVAGE)



HO-791

Taylor House, 6150 Hanover Rd., Hanover
Howard County. MD

Kristin Hill, 7/03

11 21+02 NNNNN 565

Negative at MDSHPO

SE elevation

1 of 11



HO-791

Taylor House, 6150 Hancock Rd., Hanover

Howard County MD

Kristin Hill, 7/03

10 21+03 NNNNN 565

Negative at MDSHP0

East (front) elevation

2 of 11



HO-791

Taylor House, 6150 Hanover Rd., Hanover

Howard County, MD

Knott Hill, 7103

Negative at MDSHPO

South facade

3 of 11

09 21+02 HHHHH 565



HO-791

Taylor House, 6150 Hanover Rd., Hanover
Howard County, MD

Kristin Hill, 7/03

03 21+02 NNNNN 565

Negative at MDSHCO

SW facade

4 of 11



HO- 791

Taylor House, 6150 Hanover Rd., Hanover

Howard, County, MD

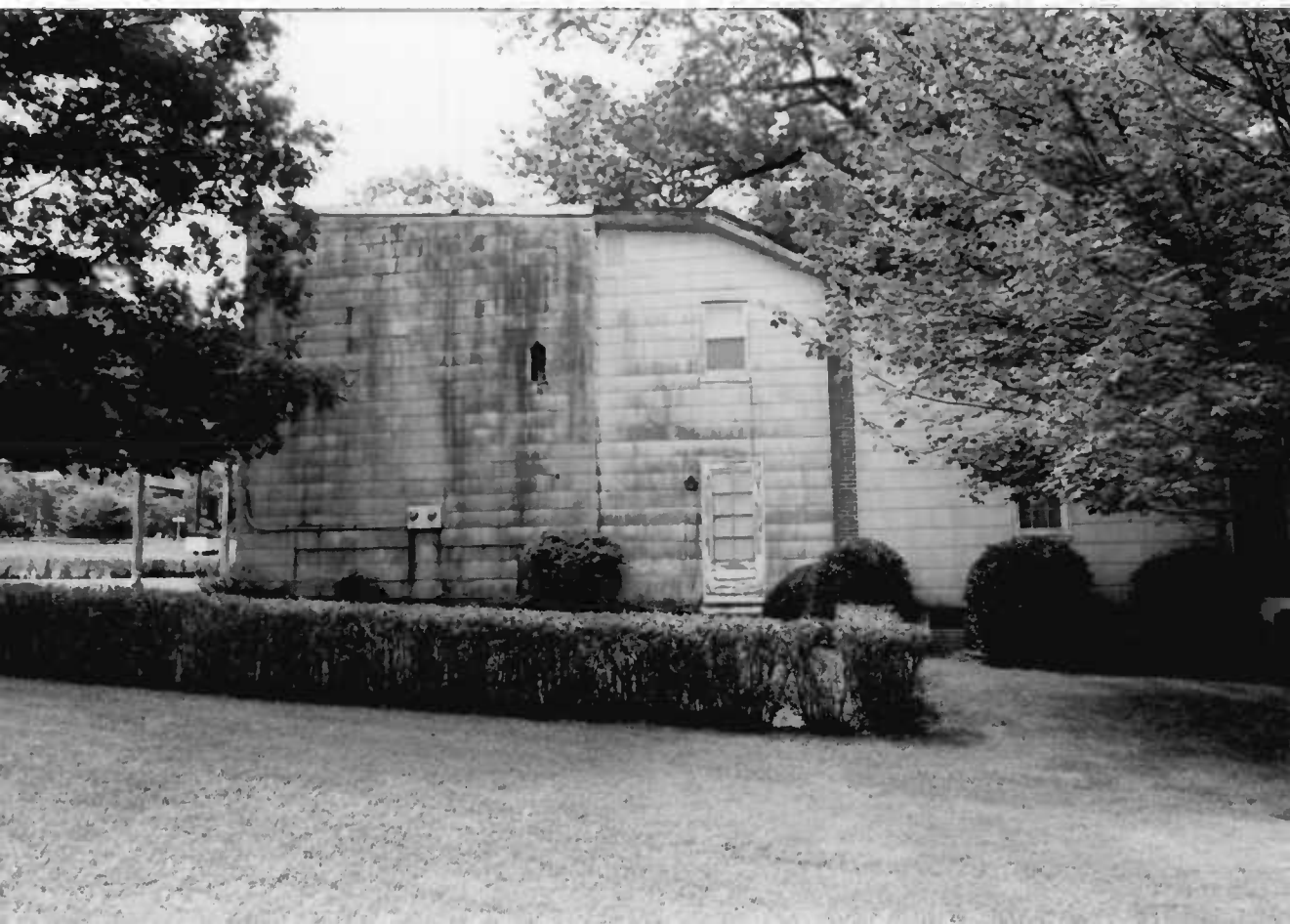
07 21-01 NNNNN 565

Knight Hill, 7/03

Negative at MDSHPO

W facade

5 of 11



HO-791

Taylor House, 6150 Hanover Rd., Hanover
Howard County, MD

95 21+01 NESHIN 565

Kristin Hill, 7/03

Negative at MDSHPO

N facade

6 of 11



HO- 791

Taylor House, 6150 Hanover Rd., Hanover

Howard County, MD

04 21482 HINCHIN SGS

Kristin Hill, 7/03

Negative at MDSHPs

NE elevation

7 of 11



HO-791

Taylor House, 6150 Hanover Rd, Hanover
Howard County, MD

93 21+00 NNNNN 565

Kristin Hill, 7/03

Negative at MDSHPD

Front door

8 of 11



HO. 791

Taylor House, 6150 Hanover Rd., Hanover
Howard County, MD

Knott Hill, 7103

02 21+02 00000 565

Negative at MDHPD

Cornice brackets

9 of 11



HO-791

Taylor House, 6150 Hanover Rd., Hanover
Howard County, MD

01 21701 11111 565

Kristin Hill, 7103

Negative at MDSHPD

S facade

10 of 11



HO- 791

Taylor House, 6150 Hanover Rd., Hanover

06 21+82 NWNN 565

Howard County. MD

Kristin Hill, 7/03

Negative at MOSHPO

shed behind house

11 of 11